

# Diction

## Consider:

As I watched, the sun broke weakly through, brightened the rich red of the fawns, and **kindled** their white spots.

— E. B. White, “Twins,” *Poems and Sketches of E.B. White*

## Discuss:

1. What kind of flame does *kindled* imply? How does this verb suit the purpose of the sentence?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Would the sentence be strengthened or weakened by changing *the sun broke weakly through* to *the sun burst through*? Explain the effect this change would have on the use of the verb *kindled*.

## Apply:

Brainstorm with the class a list of action verbs that demonstrate the effects of sunlight.